

**MAY 5, 2010**

Mr. McLaughlin said before they get into the Communications this evening, they have an Ordinance on the Agenda tonight regarding replacing traffic signals at the intersections of Bailey Avenue at Evans Street, Shaw Avenue at Locust Street, Sixth

Avenue at Market Street, and S.R. 148 at Twelfth Street with stop signs. He said is there anyone in the audience who would like to comment on this Ordinance. He said thank you.

### **COMMUNICATIONS:**

- Received a petition addressed to Mayor Brewster, Members of City Council, and Residents of McKeesport, RE: Rehiring of Dogcatcher Ken Ferree. The contact person was Carolyn Leitzell.
- Received a letter from Darcy Cleaver from the Port Authority to Dennis Pittman, RE: Bus Shelters.
  - Mayor Brewster said while they go through the correspondence, he just wanted to put Council's mind at ease. He said there was some debate about the Lamar bus stops being replaced or removed. He said that was a private contractor and Mr. Pittman and Mr. Elash tried to negotiate a better deal as was well documented in the Daily News. He said he wanted to commend Dennis for reaching out to the Port Authority for trying to get the shelters in. He said they are going to approach Council over the next several months with potential opportunities to do advertisement at those sites and there is also another individual interested in doing billboards. He said the City will join in the revenue sharing with that individual. He said that is a positive thing. He said there is no requirement that the bus stops have shelters but once they get used to it, in inclement weather they were nice. He said the Port Authority was very accommodating.
- Received a letter from Todd Cravitz, District Traffic Engineer, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Transportation, RE: City of McKeesport, Bailey Avenue @ Evans Street, Shaw Avenue @ Locust Street and Sixth Avenue @ Market Street; Removal of Traffic Signals.

- Received the monthly report for May from the McKeesport Weed and Seed Initiative.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- Fire Chief Kevin Lust said Good Evening. He said actually April was a slow month except for the storms that they had during the month. He said they actually had one building catch on fire and three cooking fires. He said they had 21 power lines listed under hazardous conditions in one night. He said that includes backup calls where trees came down on power lines or power lines went down for other reasons during the storm. He said other than that if lower Tenth Ward people have seen Firemen down there from out of town, they have three men in the Department who teach classes. He said they took a building that the City owns and is going to demolish and are breaching the building. He said they are going to have another class this month again. They had one class last month at 601 Atlantic. He said if anyone sees people in there, it is not an alarm, and it will happen again on the 29<sup>th</sup> of this month. He said last month it was truck company training. He said they actually entertained White Oak, Elizabeth and McKeesport firefighters. He said this month it will be the Engine Company. He said when they had the Reverend stand up, he never thanked her or apologized to her when they donated a pressure pan to the Fire Department. He said also PNA also donated items to the Fire Department which the newspaper listed but the story did not give credit to the church. He apologizes for that and wants to thank the Reverend for their donations also. He said the hoagies were also good that they made. He also said thank you for all the cards when he had his knee operations.
- Chief Bryan Washowich said Good Evening. He said the Police Department executed 170 arrests for the month of April. He said they issued 79 traffic citations. He said the

aggressive driving was in effect in April and will be in effect this month as well. He said he is happy to say that through the efforts of the Administration they were able to reinstate the neighborhood safety patrol units, which are the foot patrol officers who are walking the streets in the neighborhoods. He said they have three teams of two men and when school is over they will have another team of two men. He said their primary duty is to deter crime. He said their secondary duty, which he feels is as important as their primary duty, is to communicate with the public. He said they are to enforce certain things that will make the neighborhoods a better place to live. He said they have been instructed to issue orange tags when noticed and enforce the curfew violations. He said with the warmer weather they have had an influx of juveniles on the streets and unfortunately, with an influx of juveniles there is a little more turmoil. He said at this particular time, they are handing out a lot of verbal warnings to some of the kids and explaining the definition of the curfew ordinance to them. He said soon the police will be executing more arrests regarding curfew violations. He said he thanks all of them to initiate that program again and he thinks it will have a great impact. He said with the new vehicles they were able to put on the road, they developed a plan to continuously use three vehicles only and have one of the new vehicles sit for a cool down period so they don't have to run 24 hours a day. He said now they can rotate the vehicles for general maintenance. He asked if anyone had any questions.

- Ms. Walker asked what wards would the police be walking in.
- Chief Washowich said they have a strategic plan in effect that is written concerning different areas that the police are to be located at particular times. He said they have noticed certain areas have an influx of juveniles at certain times of the day. He said without going into a lot of details, they have about 14 locations

which they have broken down into blocks and streets. He said this problem is not ward-wide; it is more block-wide. He said they have several locations that the police are rotating through so that they are in these areas during those problem times so they can address the concerns of the community in those areas.

- Mr. Segina said they have five vehicles running don't they.
- Chief Washowich said yes, they have six districts total.
- Mr. Segina said the Chief said three vehicles, so he did not understand.
- Chief Washowich said they had to purchase four new patrol vehicles and a new command vehicle that is driven only by the turn lieutenant.
- Mr. Segina said he just wanted people to know that they don't have just three cars.
- Chief Washowich said yes sir; they actually have six districts and have several good vehicles in the fleet also.
- Mr. McLaughlin said they also have two bicycle policemen.
- Chief Washowich said yes sir. He said again he is very thankful that Council allowed him to initiate this. He said when they initiate the bicycle patrol program which hopefully will be started next week, through private contributions and donations, they were able to acquire two bicycles and equipment for the bicycles. He said they are in the building now and the officers are waiting for particular safety equipment to wear to begin their patrols. He said they are also going to go on the rotation with the neighborhood safety patrols and will

address certain areas that they feel need to be addressed.

- Mayor Brewster said if Council has any place they think they might like to see Beat Patrol, they should call him. He said that is why they are out there. He said Fawn has called him a few times. He said he will communicate that to the Chief then. He said they are the eyes and ears and get the complaints. He said they have the flexibility to move them around, even during a shift. He said if they are scheduled to be in a certain area and there is something going on somewhere else after school or whatever, let him know and he can get the Chief on the radio and they can move them to another area just to be visible. He said don't hesitate to do that.
- Mr. McLaughlin said he had one other thing. He said the other night at about 9:30 he was going home on Grandview Avenue and turned up Stewart to Garbett. He said he almost hit a bicycle because he could not see him. He said he did not see him coming and he thinks they should look into something regarding people riding bicycles.
- Mayor Brewster said they do the bike safety.
- Mr. McLaughlin said yes, but they should have lights on them and reflectors on them.
- Chief Washowich said they have four bike rodeos scheduled for this year and the primary goal of those rodeos are to instruct the kids how to safely ride their bikes. He said part of that Bicycle Patrol curriculum will be to learn a little bit about bicycle safety so that will be a big part of their patrol also.

- Mr. McLaughlin said actually the bicycle he almost came in contact with was being ridden by a guy who was about 28 years old. He said he was not a kid.
- Mr. Tedesco said do they have any ordinances already on the books.
- Mayor Brewster said there probably are ordinances on the books but as BJ said if they rely on the rodeos and now that they have the Bike Patrol and Beat Patrol, they can tend to that. He said where if the Police were in a district car they would not run into that. He said the fellows on the bikes can be on you and you won't even know they are there. He said that is the beauty of it because they then can compete with that group. He said when they get a call, the bike patrol can find them. He said the bikes go down paths where the police cars can't go but the bike patrol will be able to follow them. He said he was going to report on it later. He said they just started that new Task Force so they can distribute that ordinance in that neighborhood and let the Task Force distribute it to the neighbors.
- Mr. Segina said he remembers one time they used to license all of these.
- Mayor Brewster said he knows they have to have a light if they are riding at night.
- Mr. Elash said if they are on the road, there are state statutes that require them to have certain reflectors and lights.
- Mayor Brewster said they are also supposed to ride on the right side of the road and that sort of thing. He said they will pull out the statute and get a copy to them.
- Community Development Director Bethany Bauer reported that the Code Enforcement Officers and Building Inspector

are in full effect and full force recently since the weather has become warmer, things have started greening up and neighbors have started coming out of their houses. She said they have been extremely busy. She said they are working with the Twin Rivers COG on the continuation of the demolition project with the Mayor's office. She said at the last Council meeting they awarded contracts for PennDOT. She said in today's newspaper, PennDOT is letting a contract begin on Thursday evening and it is their own contractor. She said although it is work being done in McKeesport, they do not have much oversight over that project. She said West Fifth Avenue will be taking on a different shape over the next two years or so. She said in addition to that project, the National Trail Alliance is reconstructing the trail between 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Streets and the 15<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge. She said that is also a project that is a little bit out of their purview but the engineer on the project is Senate Engineering, who is also the City Engineer. She said that gives the City a heads up on that project to some extent. She said there is also a resolution on the Agenda this evening regarding State Emergency Grant funding that is about to expire. She said the funding was originally allocated to the YMCA for renovations however the YMCA can no longer use those resources so the City is proposing to allocate those resources to Womansplace. She said the contract with the State expires July 17 of this year so they are trying to slip it in to an existing project that Womansplace is currently working on.

- Mr. Segina said does the reconstruction of West Fifth Avenue from the Jerome Street Bridge to the Elbow Room entails the painting of the rail going down from the ramp. He said he doesn't think that has ever been painted.
- Ms. Bauer said it has not been painted. She said when they walked the project about a year or year and a half ago the City brought that up, but at that point,



PennDOT wanted to end the project before the Elbow Room so that section was not even addressed in the project. She said she has not seen the specifications to see whether or not they include that painting. She said also at the Mansfield Bridge, the same situation exists.

- Mr. Segina said he knows because he mentioned it at the last meeting. He said he would appreciate it if she would mention it to them at their next meeting. He said if they could get that painted, it would not require the same contractor and would really dress up the entrance and egress to the City. He said it would look a lot better for the City.
- Ms. Bauer said she agrees with him 100%. She said that is all she has.
- Mayor Brewster said Nick could not be here this evening. He said for all the frustration that occurred with the snow and in 90 days they went through the snow removal, the clearing of the trees that fell during the snow, the clearing of the trees that fell during the microburst and the preparation of all the fields that all the leagues needed April 1. He said the Public Works Department has done an outstanding job with not many people to get all these things done. He said they went from three feet of snow to playing baseball in 90 days with six people to make it happen it is difficult and they did a good job. He said the damage that was done during the snow and microburst has been turned into their insurance and FEMA and FEMA. He said he is not sure what if anything will be reimbursed. He said Ed Coulter was in a meeting today and has done a good job as the City's Emergency Management Coordinator to try and identify with the help of the Department Heads exactly what the loss was to the City and that was in excess of \$200,000 which they have already paid out of the General Fund. He said that will obviously be an issue in December when they are trying to make payroll. He said it is very important that

they get some reimbursement. He said the ground breaking and ribbon cutting for the Trail took place and some of them were able to attend. He said they are working on the trail from Kane Hospital to the 15<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge which will be paved. He said if they have not gone down there, it is really an amazing transformation of a once blighted area. He said some of the people at Kane are able to go down in their wheelchairs and fish in the river. He said hundreds of people come through the city from Maryland and other states because McKeesport is the trailhead, everyone has to go through the City to get anywhere on the trail. He said hundreds of outsiders have come through and past the Marina. He said everyone should go down and spend a couple of hours in the area. He said obviously the ribbon cutting for Marshall Drive was Monday and went very well. He said that is another piece of infrastructure that will add value to the property in Haler Heights, create business opportunities on the land adjacent to Tom Clarks, hopefully prevent any further vehicular deaths on that road, and give Serra High School an opportunity to get school buses in and out of that site with a degree of safety. He said they are still working with RIDC to get prospective tenants into the EchoStar site. He said about an hour ago he was on the phone with a firm trying to negotiate a visit to that site. He said there are firms interested in the millsite. He said the flyover ramp is scheduled to go out to bid and should have been out this month but will probably out towards the end of May, he hopes. He said as Bethany reported, the West Fifth Avenue bid has been awarded and construction will begin on West Fifth Avenue. He said in addition to the piece from the Elbow Room to the bridge, those things will all be occurring. He said there is a meeting Monday at 10:00 regarding Hometown Streets, which is Fifth Avenue. He said they have the money for that project and they will see a transformation on Fifth Avenue, which will include things like lampposts, some sidewalks, shrubs, trees and that sort of thing. He said he and Dennis meet with UPMC on a

monthly basis to talk about the corridor by the hospital. He said for those who are concerned about what happened in Braddock, they obviously need to be concerned about McKeesport as well. He said these meetings are going very well and there is some demolition scheduled for that area which was requested by the hospital to try and make a friendly area where patients families could come to visit and feel comfortable, safe and have somewhere to park. He said the hospital wants to be in an inviting area that is aesthetically attractive so the City is working on the corridor from the Duquesne Bridge to Evans and up Evans Avenue. He said that is a segway into the demolition program where they have awarded the bid to do \$400,000 demolition in the 7<sup>th</sup> Ward. He said he is excited about it because he promised the people in that area for a long time that it would be done. He said approximately 15 to 18 structures will be done within the next two months. He said in addition to that Bethany has worked with the County and the TRCOG for another \$100,000 in demolition money to use for scattered demolition primarily in the 7<sup>th</sup> Ward. He said that contract is due to go out soon. He said there were some asbestos issues. He said they continue to do scattered sites with the Scaife money. He said the demolition is going very well and they have had a number of people call although they still have an inventory of over 400 buildings that need to go. He said they want to get those down as quickly as possible. He said they have probably done almost 400 in the last five years. He said they are making progress.

- Mr. Malinchak said would the Mayor reiterate for the fifth time that the funds that are allocated for one project for example, the sidewalk on Walnut Street cannot be used for anything else. He said he gets beat up about once a week on that.
- Mayor Brewster said he hates to see Ray get beat up. He said he looks like Mike Ditka anyway.

- Mr. McLaughlin said that's because he loafs at McDonald's with the Seniors.
- Mr. Malinchak said he is not always there.
- Mayor Brewster said there is that myth. He said hopefully when he gets his State of the City report completed, and it is taking some time because it is now about that thick, they want to talk about that. He said they want to talk about that myth. He said it is a myth that has scattered throughout town and other communities throughout the City want to know why the idiot Mayor do this here instead of doing their thing.
- Mr. Malinchak said that is exactly what he hears.
- Mayor Brewster said while he might not be very bright, he is not an idiot. He said as he tells his brothers, his mother had a few idiots but he was not one of them. He said it is sad that because most if not all of this money is earmarked for projects. He said they have to convince employees, that is why they could not use it for salary increases. He said the sidewalk on Walnut Street was an Elm Street Program, which he has explained before. He said 400 Communities in the State of Pennsylvania out of over 2,500 competed for that money and only 13 or 14 communities received the money. He said there were very strict guidelines that had to be dealt with and it could only be used in that corridor. He said the \$1 million for West Fifth Avenue with the help of Kortz, Gergeley and Senator Logan can only be used for West Fifth Avenue. He said frankly had the Governor not given them the money, West Fifth Avenue would not be getting paved and everyone would still be going through the holes. He said the only person who can print money is in Washington. He said when these things happen, people don't get immediate gratification and they are bitter because something did happen in their

community. He said when they see the State of the City, they will see where they strategically tried to do projects in every single ward in the City. He said they have done that when they have tried to go out and tried to get grant money such as the Marshall Drive project. He said they did that job for half the amount of money for what the bid was. He said that project was in the 12<sup>th</sup> Ward. He said they did the sewer project in the 11<sup>th</sup> Ward. He said they have done demolition in every single Ward. He said there are just so many to do that sometimes it is hard to notice. He said the ramps in and out of Tenth Ward and the paving project they did with the Bond issue was \$3 million in paving four years ago. He said they have done over \$3 million in demolition. He said this is a City that doesn't have any money and it was all done through grants, private money, stimulus money from the President, the Sewage Authority and other funding. He said they bought five new police vehicles because they did a good job on their CD money. He said they had a fire truck that they were paying \$80,000 a year and when that was paid off they purchased another fire truck and a brand new river rescue boat because they have a marina and two rivers.

- Mr. Malinchak said but he is still going to hear that they still have potholes on West Fifth Avenue and they are buying a boat.
- Mayor Brewster said he should buy them another cup of coffee and tell them he apologizes.
- Mr. Segina said why doesn't he get new guys to drink coffee with.
- Mayor Brewster said the media has covered all of those projects ....

- Mr. Malinchak said the point he is making is that he doesn't have to convince him, but somehow they are not getting the message out to the community. He said he doesn't know where they stand with the website right now but the summary that he just gave right now would be so great on the website.
- Mayor Brewster said the website has most of this now and has been upgraded. He said the website is 100% better than it was two years ago. He said they may have seen the book that was put out by the five communities. He said it had some of the projects in it as well. He said they are going to continue to use it to disseminate that information. He said the Daily News and other local newspapers have done a great job detailing the projects very thoroughly.
- Mr. Malinchak said he is beginning to think they don't want to understand it.
- Mr. Segina said that is the cynicism in this town.
- Mayor Brewster said in the country.
- Mr. Segina said he has two things for the Mayor. He said one is a question and one is a comment. He said first is there anything new with Eat N Park down there since the ramps are ready to go out to bid.
- Mayor Brewster said as he reported at the last meeting, since that involves real estate and the taking of property, the county is handling it and he is not at liberty to talk about it. He said he can't do that until those deals are done.
- Mr. Segina said he gave Ray a ten-minute answer and now he won't give him the answer to that. He said the other thing is that while he is talking about knocking down homes, does he know that there are three new homes going up.

- Mayor Brewster said he was going to get to that.
- Mr. Segina said the Mayor said he was done and were there any questions.
- Mayor Brewster said he did not say that. He said Mr. Segina brought up a point and they were trying to segway from demolition to new houses. He said he wants to point out that in the second worst financial time in their country, they were able to build houses in McKeesport in the 7<sup>th</sup> Ward. He said they are on the Tax rolls and they should be proud of that. He said that did not come without a lot of work by a lot of people. He said he doesn't know how they convince the public to be happy about something that happens good for their neighbors. He said he can remember that they paved 17 streets in Grandview and the phone calls he got were from the people whose streets did not get paved and the ones who got paved could care less. He said they could not get to their house without going on a paved street. He said they have to recognize that they can't keep everyone happy. He said to summarize the whole thing, these things are not done by happenstance or petitions or media pressure. He said they are done because there is a strategy. He said the strategy is that if they don't dress their town up, don't fix sewer lines, then they can't sell homes or maintain the value of homes and then they can't bring businesses into town. He said they show people in town all the time. He said he takes them everywhere and the city is full of assets, the rose garden, the Little Theater, the Marina, the rivers, the College, the Park. He said they have a strong police department, a paid fire department which not many people have. He said it takes time to fix what has taken 30 years to destroy. He said it is taking time to climb back up and they have a strategy and it is a good one. He said they will have to deal with a little bit of violence. He said they think

they have contacts with the Federal and State government. He said they have resources on the Council and contacts. He said they can write grants and actually write them for other communities. He said they are actually selling their services to other communities. He said there are over 500 school districts in the state and many people don't think there should be that many, but it is up to them to see that their school district survives. He said it is the same with communities, there are over 2,500 communities in the state and there are people who think there doesn't need to be that many communities. He said they want to make sure their city survives. He said that is more important than the pothole in front of his house. He said that is the story and he needs all of them to make sure ... and don't get him wrong. He said if they need something they should come and ask him for something if they really need something. He said they want to fix the things that need to be fixed. He said they just have to wait their turn, it may not get fixed tomorrow. He said other than cigarettes, he thinks that is the only product they can buy that says this product will kill you. He said negativity will kill you if you are trying to attract businesses or people to your city. He said if the only thing that they can say about McKeesport is that the Mayor is a little deranged, he can live with that. He said he would rather they say that than have them talking about their neighbors or the projects. He said the last thing is that in the money for the fire truck there was some residual amount that they were going to buy the boat with from the CD money. He said they are also going to buy a paver because their paver is now broken and cannot be repaired. He said they are excited about that. He said that does not mean they are going to pave a lot of streets because they don't have the money to pave a lot but will pave some. He said they are going to pave Versailles from Evans down to Union and maybe up



past the Library if they can do that. He said they are major streets and big streets.

- Mr. Malinchak said what does a paver cost.
- Mr. Pittman said \$115,748.00.
- Mr. Malinchak said no reimbursements.
- Mayor Brewster said they got some on the old one.
- Mr. Pittman said they got a trade in on the old one, \$13,500.
- Mayor Brewster said the repair was \$20,000 which he thought was too much to put into the old one and they got \$13,500 for the trade in. He said so they are looking at a \$33,000 swap there for the old machine, and they now have a brand new paver which will outlast most of them.
- Mr. Segina said just as a matter of reference, the 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District does overhauls on different machines too. He said he knows they need a new paver and that is why he didn't mention it to them. He said they did do some work on the plow and his loaders one time, the big ones.
- Ms. Walker said who decides what streets get paved and is there a lottery for that.
- Mayor Brewster said Nick and he personally make that decision and they often get the engineers to tell them. He said when they get complaints to put them in a sequence in queue because they know they can only do a couple a year. He said where they can't pave it, they try to keep it patched and watch over it. He said there are some bad ones but most of them are okay. He said they got beat up on Versailles Avenue, but it costs \$1 million to do the stretch from the Elbow Room to

Dravosburg. He said they don't have any money. He said as Ray points out, they are fighting Act 47 which is municipal bankruptcy. He said if you can't pay the employees or pave streets ... he said the state is running Pittsburgh. He said everyone who is elected is just going through the process, the State tells them what they can and cannot do. He said they will tell them what they can pave and that they can or can't have International Village, whether they can buy police cars and how many people they have to lay off. He said they are trying to keep away from that. He said that is why they need people to be patient. He said some people have been patient for 20 years. He said when he gets feedback from everyone, they do go out and look and try to do the very worst first. He said so if they have something that needs to be done, just like demolition, they need to tell him.

- Mr. Malinchak said the Mayor is essentially running two governments. He said the Mayor is running a government when Council passes a budget at the beginning of the year, then all of these other things that he is talking about, the ad hoc money that is earmarked is separate from the budget. He said there are two independent governments so to speak and he doesn't think anyone realizes that. He said they cannot merge the two.
- Mayor Brewster said one of the things that he has noticed with the Congressmen and Senators and State Reps is that when you apply for the grants, is that when the name McKeesport shows up is that the City has their act together. He said even though the City may not be wealthy, the Congressmen have said that the City does know how to spend the money, can pass an audit, and can manage it through their CD department. He said McKeesport is the only city in Allegheny County that has a Community Development

Department other than Pittsburgh. He said they struggle to hold on to that. He said when they give that up, they would lose that \$1.3 million and would not have the flexibility to buy that fire truck and the paver. He said Ray is right and you have to show government that the City is strong and administratively solid. He said that comes from Council as well. He said he is not saying other communities don't get some of the money, but if they are sitting in Harrisburg and get a stack 4,000 deep, how do they know which ones they pick and why. He said that is where the two government thing comes in. He said if the City can't manage, then they would not get any money. He said he is finished.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS:**

- Mr. Tedesco said he would like to publicly acknowledge the induction of Brandon Short into the WPIAL Hall of Fame. He said he was a McKeesport resident and he and Mike graduated with him. He said it was a great honor for Brandon and for the City. He said he was born and bred here. He said if you look at his success outside of football when he got done with football, it is pretty impressive as well. He said the City should be proud of Brandon.
  - Mr. McLaughlin said maybe the Mayor should do a proclamation for him.
- Ms. Walker said she just wanted to thank the Council and the Mayor for listening to the presentation yesterday by the group entitled One Vision One Life. She said she wants to thank them all for dealing with their timeliness issues and for staying and listening and for having an open and honest conversation. She said she plans to follow up with BJ so they can get some collaboration with some of the organizations they already have around here. She said she is also going to set up some meetings with the Weed and

Seed to see if there is any possible collaboration there as far as funding. She said she also would like to respond to a Letter to the Editor that she saw in the Daily News about the Seven Springs Conference. She said that she had a wonderful time there and learned a lot. She said she attended all of the sessions. She said she did not have the experience that the writer in the paper wrote about. She said she had a wonderful time and was able to speak with a lot of her colleagues on a different level and met a lot of people and did a lot of networking. She said she attended a lot of the sessions and learned a lot. She said she can't respond to whether taxpayer dollars paid for that and she is sure they did not but she just wanted to say that she had a wonderful time and learned a lot.

- Mayor Brewster said he would like to expand on that. He said so the public knows, since he has been Mayor, they have a no travel policy and all of them knew and agreed with that, with the exception of the League of Municipalities. He said he is going to be the new President of the League. He said Fawn hit the nail on the head. He said it is important that other State Reps and Senators ... it doesn't matter what you think about government, that is the process that has to be dealt with. He said it is important that they know who Fawn Walker and A.J. Tedesco are. He said when they send in these requests for grant money ... they need to know these people and that is how the City gets this money. He said when they were up there, the City got a premium check from MRM for \$129,000. He said the Municipal Authority got a check as well. He said anyone who has gone up from this City ... and Fawn was taking notes because she was sitting next to him. He said the sessions were important; he put the program together. He said this is not fun and games. He said as Darryl brought up, and he has spoken up there before, when they have all the elected officials up there and they want to talk about Marcellus Shale and

revenue sharing, that is where they talk about it. He said it is the best forum for the communities to get their points across to the Senators and Legislators. He said it is a great forum because you never get that many people who are decision makers in the same place. He said he thanks Council for supporting his policy of no travel. He said if you look, they have not done with the exception of Seven Springs and they do that because they know there is an opportunity to bring funds back to the City. He said Ray is the Controller of the City and the fiscal watchdog of the City and agrees with that. He said Fawn is right on target with that.

- Mr. Malinchak said what the Mayor is missing is that he took a couple of shots in the hallway up there for hogging all the grant money.
- Mayor Brewster said but he offered to help other communities. He said that is the other thing that he wants to bring up because of all this competitiveness that goes on. He said it is important that they work with their neighboring communities like White Oak, Versailles and Dravosburg and their representatives. He said that is how you do that. He said they asked how McKeesport got some of these things and he told them and offered to help them. He said they are all in the Mon Valley and McKeesport is not going to succeed if all the communities around them fail or vice versa. He said he doesn't want to mention any names but look at all the cities who are struggling around them. He said these are real things that happen. He said that is why anytime they get a business that doesn't fit here; they send them to neighboring communities. He said he knows that if they open a business in White Oak, the employees might very well live in McKeesport or vice versa.

- Mr. Tedesco said because the Mayor is now Chairman of the League, he is sure that the Mayor saw that many of the neighboring communities cannot afford to go to Seven Springs. He said is there potentially some sort of change that could be made.
- Mayor Brewster said the League itself is really struggling because they are the lobbyists for the cities and communities. He said the League of Municipalities and the Pennsylvania League of Cities are two organizations of which the City is a member and they lobby Harrisburg. He said if they can convince the local state reps that revenue sharing is a great idea through a Marcellus Shale gas tax, they rely on those two organizations to go to Harrisburg and lobby for that. He said they rely on their local reps as well but that is only two people or three counting Senator Logan. He said they need a lobbyist saying it is not just McKeesport that wants this but all the neighboring communities want this. He said if those communities don't make it to Seven Springs, some of them are still members but could not afford to go .... He said actually the attendance was down even though the program was pretty good. He said that there needs to be some pre-conference networking that could occur where they meet with local officials in case they cannot all attend Seven Springs. He said then they can get their issues on a white board, document them, send representation to the conference, and present them. He said he is not the Chairman but is only a substitute for Luke Ravenstahl. He said if Luke shows up, he is the one who is really in charge. He said that in the meantime he is there if they need him. He said that is a good point. He said he was very proud that when this group is represented, he knows that they are talking to vendors, people they buy equipment from, their collection agency, the DEP, and others that the City deals with that they normally don't get a chance to talk

to. He said he appreciates the comments. He said he thinks they recognize that they owe it to the taxpayers to make sure they are not spending money that doesn't give them reward for that money. He said if he didn't think they were going to get money back, they would not be going there either. He said that is his policy and Council has supported it. He said he thinks they will do very well with that. He said they will follow up on A.J.'s idea about the pre-conference networking.

- Ms. Walker said are they going to discuss the outhouses tonight.
- Mr. McLaughlin said no.
- Mayor Brewster said rather than discuss it, he will just give them an update. He said the contract is back out for bid but he asked the Public Works Director to contact all three vendors to get the lowest price so they can get a few out there at the ballfields until this gets resolved. He said they should see two or three out there within a few days; they may actually be there now.
- Mr. Tedesco said was there a problem with them.
- Mr. Elash said there was a little bit of a problem with one of the bidders that came in significantly lower than everyone else because they misunderstood the specs on the proposal. He said the savings was so tremendous that the Mayor wanted to put it out to bid again so they could realize the savings from the third individual who did not receive the original proposal. He said it has already gone out to bid again and they are waiting for those to come in again.
- Mayor Brewster said they have put some out in place at the ballfields so they are not losing service. He said the band shell, the fire station and the senior center

are all open and available as well. He said they think they have covered enough. He said he would like to get it resolved quickly.

- Mr. Segina said he just wanted to expound on what Ms. Walker talked about. He said he knows one community got in a lot of trouble going to Seven Springs. He said Marty Griffin doesn't help much when he talks about hot sex and booze up there. He said he is 70 years old and is not looking for either one of them. He said if you saw the people up there, he has no idea why Marty did that except to get a better rating on his radio show. He said he went to the conferences and they were jam-packed. He said he had the opportunity to listen to all the legislators of which he had both good and bad opinions and the two Congressmen. He said he thought they both spoke eloquently and understood the issues that are confronting most of the communities around here. He said he did get a lot out of it and has been going there now for over 20 some years. He said he knows people jump up at the meetings and say people are going up there to cavort around, have a good time and eat like crazy. He said in his personal opinion, the food is not that good up there and he tries not to eat too much but what he brings back from listening to the legislators and talking to them personally is priceless. He said they also have exhibits there where there are new products that have come out. He said some of these products you might not be able to afford right now but if you keep them in the back of your brain, you have the information when you need it later. He said it is very informational for him and he enjoys it just for the knowledge itself. He said it is too bad a lot of communities cannot afford to go but they should make some kind of allowance to make sure they get up there and keep up to date with what is going on in their own town, throughout Allegheny County, and with their legislators. He said he has a whole new view of legislators. He said there is a big step from legislators to Congress. He said he is very disappointed in the legislators they have around here, not



Bill Kortz or Marc Gergely, because they were not there. He said all the other ones that were around there, really disappointed him.

- Mayor Brewster said remember the grants, Darryl, remember the grants.
- Mr. Segina said he can see why they are in such a mess. He said the Mayor has a direct line to the Governor anyway.
- Mr. Cherepko said he wanted to address one particular issue but will hold off on it right now because there are a few people who are going to speak on that issue tonight.
- Mr. McLaughlin said the only thing he has is that he is really surprised that the Mayor forgot one thing, the Municipal Authority. He said the expansion will probably be starting next year for the Municipal Authority. He said he doesn't know exactly what date or month. He said in the meantime they are trying to expand a little further and are talking to two communities about taking over their plants and bringing the service to McKeesport. He said that is a plus because it will help the City out a whole lot.

#### **CITIZENS IN THE AUDIENCE:**

- **CYNTHIA DOWNES, 2726 MILBURN STREET, McKEESPORT, PA.** Ms. Downes said she lives in Grandview and has lived there for over 20 years. She said she was raised in McKeesport. She said she has an eyesore next to her. She said it is a vacant home which has been there for about 8 years and is only about 10 feet away. She said it attracts all types of animals and kids go in and out all the time because there are broken windows and doors. She said the grass is terribly high year after year and she calls and complains and sometimes they send the summer help in to

clean it up. She said this year she understands there is no money for that.

- Mayor Brewster said he thinks he came up one year to do that.
- Ms. Downes said she is here now to ask if she can get that house on the demolition list.
- Mayor Brewster said he thinks he sent the ordinance officers out there to talk to her.
- Ms. Downes said no. She said Ron Brooks did call her the other day.
- Mayor Brewster said he gave Ron the note. He said this is the classic case. He said they are going to find out where this house is and if it is already been heard. He said there is a legal process that they have to go through. He said he thinks he has a pretty good feeling about additional funding. He said every six months they have a public hearing which they have to have right here in Council Chambers and she can attend. He said they have to go through the legal process to make sure that no one wants to come in and fix that house. He said once that is done then they go through the bidding process and find the money to tear it down. He said he is aware of it and got her note. He said he gave that note to Ron and they are going to get it on the next public hearing list. He said if they are lucky, maybe it has already been heard, but he doesn't think it has been. He said he knows whose house it is. He said Fran talked to him and when he told him the story, it dawned on him who it was. He said he remembers being up there.
- Ms. Downes said she figured she would come down and get her voice heard.

- Mayor Brewster said that is not a problem. He said she wants to keep that area nice and he understands. He said that is a typical case when older people pass away and no one wants a house so they sell it to someone who doesn't take care of it and the neighbors have to put up with it. He said they completely understand.
- Ms. Downes said unfortunately the owner is in California.
- Mr. McLaughlin said what is the address.
- Ms. Downes said it is 2724.
- Mayor Brewster said he has the address. He said he will get back to her when they have the hearing.
- Ms. Downes said her main concern is if it catches fire, she is doomed. She said she would lose everything.
- Mayor Brewster said he will try and get it down as quickly as possible.
- Ms. Downes said thank you for listening.
- Someone in the audience came up to the podium and said they had a fire about three years ago a couple doors from this house. He said there was no water in the hydrant and they had to bring a buffalo down from Lincoln Borough to fight that fire.
- Chief Kevin Lust said that has been corrected. He said that is the end of the line and what they were doing was pumping two engines off of it.
- The person said he doesn't see anyone cleaning the hydrants or anything.
- Chief Lust said that has been taken care of actually by the Water Authority.

- Mayor Brewster said they have passed that on to the Water Authority. He said that is a very good point.
- The person said they are way out on the end and it is probably clogged up.
- Mayor Brewster said can the Chief send a crew up there tonight to check that hydrant.
- Chief Lust said they are not allowed to check the hydrant, it has to go through the Water Authority. He said he will make sure that the Water Authority checks it.
- Mayor Brewster said does the Chief mean that he cannot go up and turn that hydrant on.
- Chief Lust said he can turn it on but they cannot static test it or anything else. He said the Mayor is talking at the end of the line. He said he understands what the Mayor means and he will get together with the Water Company tomorrow.
- Mayor Brewster said they have been made aware of it and he doesn't think they should let it go.
- Chief Lust said that has been corrected and they dug up and added a whole 8" line going down Orchard Street so they would take that up. He said they could not go down off of Banker.
- The person said they did dig a line off of McCarrell.
- Chief Lust said they did put a line off of McCarrell and at the end of Lafayette.
- Mr. Malinchak said he saw a report come past his desk with all the pressures at all the hydrants that the Chief sent. He said there is a report somewhere.

- Mayor Brewster said he just wants to make sure they follow up and let him know that it has been done. He said they never want to fire, but as months go by and years go by, the thing they thought they fixed five years ago is needed and is not there. He said it doesn't hurt to go up and check it.
- Chief Lust is not trying to say no he can't do it. He said everyone knows that water will turn muddy up there. He said if they try to please this one person here, the 24 other people will complain that their water is muddy.
- **DOROTHY TRACZYNSKI, 1906 GRANDVIEW AVENUE, McKEESPORT, PA.** Ms. Traczynski said she knows they have a lot of important issues, everything is important. She said what is important to her is that they hired that dog catcher back. She said when she read that in the paper, she did not sleep at night. She said she didn't know if they all know what he does to animals. She said he has no compassion whatsoever. She said he doesn't care about animals. She said whatever he tells them .... She said she tried to call a couple of Council people but Loretta hung up on her. She said she called Regis three times and left two messages and he did not call her back.
  - Mr. McLaughlin said he explained to her when he came in tonight why he didn't call her back.
  - Ms. Traczynski said why didn't Regis call her back. She said because he didn't want her .... She said he didn't even know what she wanted.
  - Mr. McLaughlin said yes he did. He said she mentioned about the dog catcher first.
  - Ms. Traczynski said after the fourth time.
  - Mr. McLaughlin said no, the first time she mentioned it and he doesn't want to get into an argument here so

she has three minutes to state why she is here and they are not going to have a battle.

- Ms. Traczynski said if she was a Councilman, she would listen to what people had to say. She said she thinks he should be up there on their behalf. She said they live in the City and pay taxes and they are up there on their behalf. She said she thinks they should call the person back. She said she called Darryl to thank him and said thanks for not voting for the dogcatcher and he called back and said thanks. She said he didn't have to call him back. She said this fellow here called her after he called her three times. She said they have to realize ... would any of them like to watch when he shoves those dogs in that chamber and turns that gas on. She said could they watch that.
- Mr. McLaughlin said no he couldn't watch that, but he doesn't think ....
- Mayor Brewster said he would like to stop her for a minute. He said he would like to her. He said they all know that. He said he thinks he speaks for everyone, they all had reservations about this. He said however, there is a lot more to this, a lot of liability and a lot of issues that are involved. He said they do understand what she said. He said he does think when Carolyn speaks, they do listen and they really believe that with what was done a couple of years ago ... but keep in mind he doesn't like to talk about a vendor because they have a contract, he was the first Mayor to say he was leaving. He said no one came in and said he did a great job. He said they recognized and they terminated him. He said there were issues and he is going to let the Council President talk about that. He said the fact is that the big issue was euthanization and he has agreed to do it the City's way. He said there is to be no more vacuum, shots only. He said he may not

have liked it but he agreed to it. He said they were using another agency and the Chief will tell her and every Council person agonized over this, some voting no and some voting yes. He said it was not an easy thing. He said when they did a warrant, they can't wait for 45 minutes for a vendor to get there because they have a dangerous situation with a vicious dog. He said there has to be someone there in five minutes and it was not working.

- Ms. Traczynski said five minutes, but he is in Braddock and all these other towns. She said when he is out in those other towns, he can be back in McKeesport in five minutes.
- Mayor Brewster said he will defer to Chief Washowich.
- Chief Washowich said he has a file folder that is very thick concerning complaints that police officers had regarding the other vendor they had. He said the majority of the complaints were for public safety issues concerning vicious dogs running at large and possibly chasing kids. He said in the City of McKeesport they have a vicious dog ordinance and that means whenever a dog is vicious or appears to be vicious and they recognize that dog as vicious, they are legally obligated to put that dog down. He said unfortunately they have to do that with their firearms. He said that causes a tremendous public safety issue with everyone around. He said routinely they have had to put dogs down because the old vendor would have a response time of 90 minutes. He said that was something they don't like to do because it causes public safety issues.
- Ms. Traczynski said couldn't they keep advertising in the paper to find someone else.
- Mayor Brewster said they tried that and no one is disagreeing with her, but when they sit up there and

have to make a decision, it has to be based on public safety. He said what happens when there is a warrant and they know there is a man in the house but they can't get in because there are vicious dogs and that person does harm to someone.

- Ms. Traczynski said she understands.
- Mayor Brewster said no one is going to say that he did a great job in making sure those dogs were put down. He said if a person gets murdered because they did not do the right thing, that would be another story. He said having said that, because Council was receptive, they went to a month-to-month contract and they are going to monitor what goes on because they agree with her and know the incident in Grandview. He said this Council made it very clear how they felt. He said the vendor sat right there and he thinks he understood. He said as he told Ms. Leitzell, sometimes you win the war but it may not be as obvious, but you get their attention. He said that is all he is going to say because he knows Carolyn wants to speak.
- Ms. Traczynski said another thing, none of the Council people have to call her back, is that right. She said Council people don't have to call her. She said she came home from dropping that paper off and there was a phone call on her machine from Harrisburg. She said who was calling her from Harrisburg, and when she listened to her message, it was Bill Kortz wishing her Happy Birthday. She said he found two minutes of his time, and his job is more important than the Council people, to call and wish her happy birthday, but these guys can't call her back.
- Mayor Brewster said he gets 50 phone calls a day so he can't call everyone back.



- Ms. Traczynski said but he gets someone to answer the calls for him.
- Mayor Brewster said this Council works very hard.
- Ms. Traczynski said but they don't call you back because they don't think you are important. She said they should also have their phone number in the book. She said the only way to help them is to remember them when it comes time to vote. She said that is all she has to say.
- Mr. McLaughlin said that is fine, he doesn't really care.
- **CAROLYN LEITZELL, 2155 LEWIS STREET, WHITE OAK, PA 15131.** Ms. Leitzell said although she lives in White Oak she was born and raised in McKeesport, graduated from McKeesport High School. She said they want to thank Mayor Brewster and members of Council for requiring the animal control officer for the City of McKeesport to use the injection method to euthanize animals when there is no other alternative instead of the cruel carbon monoxide chamber. She said after receiving numerous calls from people living in and outside the City, she put a letter together with some of the concerns of those who contacted her along with her own concerns and delivered it to Patty Williams on April 26. She said on that same day she obtained a copy of the new contract with Ferree Kennels which prompted a few more questions. She said the first question is on page one of the contract, #2, which says "to hold licensed dogs for a period of five days after capture after having notified the owner also to feed and water all dogs while in custody." She said after the five days, what does Ferree Kennels do with these licensed dogs if the owner does not claim them.
- Mr. Elash said under the State dog law, he has to put them down.
- Ms. Leitzell said no, he does not.

- Mr. Elash said he has the option to do that.
- Ms. Leitzell said she has the law here. She said the Dog Law Act of 1982 has been replaced by Act 119.
- Mr. Elash said he is well aware of that.
- Ms. Leitzell said she thinks in the new ....
- Mr. Elash said it specifically says after five days he can put the dog down.
- Ms. Leitzell said no, Jason is wrong, she has it right here. She said licensed dogs that have not been claimed by their owners are to be turned over to a humane society or organization for the humane treatment of animals. She said that is what the law reads.
- Mr. Elash said that may be what he does, he doesn't know.
- Ms. Leitzell said that is what she is asking.
- Mr. Elash said he doesn't know the answer to that. He said it is unlicensed dogs that don't have tags after five days. He said he is sorry, he misunderstood that.
- Ms. Leitzell said no, the unlicensed dogs only have to be held for 48 hours. She said this is licensed dogs that have not been claimed by their owners and the owner does not notify them. She said he is required by law to turn them over to a Humane Society or an organization for the humane treatment of animals. She said he is not allowed to put these dogs to sleep. She said that is the reason he was gotten rid of in Elizabeth Borough if they read the paper.
- Mr. Elash said he can assure her that he is going to comply with the law. He said they have had extensive

meetings with him and sat with him for hours on end to negotiate the contract.

- Ms. Leitzell said that is one part that is unclear though on that first page.
- Mayor Brewster said they will follow up on that. He said if he has five dogs with licenses unclaimed after five days, that he can take them out to White Oak Animal Shelter.
- Ms. Leitzell said yes, he cannot put them to sleep.
- Mayor Brewster said why would he care.
- Ms. Leitzell said if the dog is an owned, licensed dog and the owner never calls him and acknowledged ownership, he cannot put those dogs down. She said he has to turn those dogs over to the Humane Society or another organization. She said on page 4, #11, if he would please write these down because she would like to have these questions answered ... the "offers traps to residents for a stray cat problem" and the last sentence reads "the days of pickup will coincide with the contract for each municipality." She said can anyone explain that to her.
- Mr. Elash said he is not what she is referring to there.
- Ms. Leitzell said on page 4, where he is offering traps to residents for stray cat problems, in the last sentence in that paragraph it says the days of pickup will coincide with the contract for each municipality. She said that means that once the cat is trapped, the pick up days are scheduled according to whatever that is in the municipality. She said because these cats could be left in the traps for five days or more without food or water or in freezing temperatures or extreme heat, this is cruelty to animals.

- Mr. Elash said in that particular instance, because they did discuss that, the property owner, who comes to get the trap, they would notify him that the cat is in the trap and he would go and get the trap. He said he has a regular schedule that he would go and check if no one calls.
- Ms. Leitzell said but he only does it a couple times a week, and that is what she is trying to say.
- Mr. Elash said that is if no one calls, he would only check it a couple times a week. He said if the property owner does not call him and say there is a cat in the trap, then he automatically checks the traps.
- Ms. Leitzell said whatever, whether the property owner calls or not, if that animal stays in that trap for more than a day, that is animal cruelty. She said that is cruelty to animals.
- Mayor Brewster said why couldn't he give the control officer their phone number and they will go get the cats. He said the organization that he dealt with will go get the cats.
- Ms. Leitzell said is he still working with that organization? She said that is what she is concerned about. She said she has a store and she got a call when she was living in Versailles about a situation that happened in the apartments above Olympia Shopping Center. She said the cat had been in a trap down there for five days after he had dropped the trap off. She said no one was feeding or watering the cat. She said Reesa did get the cat.
- Mayor Brewster said Reesa is the one he is dealing with. He said they will talk to him about that.
- Ms. Leitzell said these are issues that she would like to get straightened out.

- Mayor Brewster said he didn't even call Triangle. He said he called Reese's and they came to his house and trapped two litters out there and he gave them a donation.
- Ms. Leitzell said McKeesport is pretty big and there is one cat.
- Mayor Brewster said they did a great job and trapped 10 cats at his house. He said he doesn't even own a cat.
- Ms. Leitzell said she has a person in the City and she is not going to say where he lives because people drop cats off there all the time. She said she spends about \$150 a month helping him with food. She said she tries to help him get them spayed or neutered. She said he is poor and doesn't have much but loves the cats.
- Mayor Brewster said they can pass that along. He said as he said, they brought food and the cages. He said the cats ate better than he did. He said they ate better, put water down and caught the cats and took them away. He said they checked every day.
- Ms. Leitzell said they check their traps every day.
- Mayor Brewster said they did not charge a nickel, he just gave them a donation. He said they will sit down with Ferree and tell him that there are organizations that will come and get the cats so they don't have to rely on him to do that. He said they don't mind doing it. He said it is just a matter of getting people to talk.
- Ms. Leitzell said her concern is regardless when he offers these traps to people, which Reesa doesn't know about.
- Mayor Brewster said what happens then is the problem.

- Ms. Leitzell said yes. She said any animal that sits in that trap longer than a day, it falls under cruelty to animals. She said she has a couple more things. She said they gave them some questions in a letter that she left with Patty. She said they don't have to answer them tonight but they would like to have that information.
- Mayor Brewster said they can do that.
- Mr. Elash said he doesn't know the answer to the question in the letter about the drugs.
- Mayor Brewster said they will sit down ... he said rather than take up time tonight why don't they get a conference call between Rege, Jason and Carolyn and make sure they have clarity. He said then they can sit down with Ferree and see where he is. He said if there are alternatives such as White Oak or Reesa's, they will deal with that. He said this is a work in progress.
- Mr. Elash said if you drop a cat off at White Oak or the Humane Society, is there a charge for that?
- Ms. Leitzell said she does not know.
- Mr. Elash said these are all issues because Council would have to appropriate funds if they would have to drop off every stray cat at a shelter.
- Ms. Leitzell said here is where the problem is. She said there is no problem protecting cats when it comes to how long they have to hold them. She said by State law it is only dogs. She said with cats, he has right in his contract that he puts them down the same day. She said he kills them. She said his method of killing . . . she wound up having harassment charges filed against him with cervical dislocation, which is breaking their necks.

- Mr. Elash said in their contract, all animals are done with the injection method. He said he has to do that with everyone.
- Ms. Leitzell said that is something they were told by the President of Council which upset them and she wound up having charges filed against her for posting it on her sign which were dismissed. She said there were just a couple of other items too. She said she mentioned to the Mayor that the Dog Law Act of 1982 should be Act 119 in the contract. She said one other thing in the animal control specifications under letter "O" for the requirements on the use of the injection method. She said there is no initial on those specifications by Mr. Ferree. She said he has not signed or initialed that part.
- Mr. Elash said he signed the contract.
- Ms. Leitzell said but it is not specific in the contract. She said it says according to the specifications attached, and if that would ever go into a court of law, if it is not initialed, it would not stand up in a court of law. She said he is an attorney so she will not tell him how to do it.
- Mr. Elash said that is not even remotely true.
- Ms. Leitzell said she is just concerned. She said she wants all the "i's" dotted and "t's" crossed.
- Mayor Brewster said let them respond and if they have to get on the phone they will and then they will go back.
- Ms. Leitzell said when this started in 2006, she met with Sean Logan who introduced a bill to ban the carbon monoxide use in Pennsylvania. She said she received a call a couple of months ago from some very large organizations including the Humane Society of the

U.S., the A.S.P.C.A. that this bill needs to be pushed. She said it is Senate Bill #672. She said anyone of them that can help to ban this horrible death for animals she would appreciate their assistance.

- **JAMES JACKSON, 1400 BEECH STREET, McKEESPORT, PA.** Mr. Jackson said he is here about the dogcatcher. He said he is here because the dog is sending out summons and citations. He said the dogcatcher has never met him or his dog. He said he has been in this town for nine years. He said the first four or five years he probably got \$1000 worth of citations from him. He said he never met him or anything. He said if one of the neighbors calls, he sends a citation. He said in two years he didn't get a citation while he was gone. He said now he is back again because he has nine citations here in his hand.
  - Mr. Elash asked what the citations are for.
  - Mr. Jackson said they are for the dog running loose and not having shots. He said all of his dogs have shots but he has never seen the dogs.
  - Mr. Elash said those are issues that he should bring up at the magistrates.
  - Mr. Jackson said he is at work now and has to take a day off to go to the Magistrates office to tell the Magistrate that his dog was not running loose. He said that is the dog catcher's job. He said let him take a day off.
  - Mr. Elash said what kind of dogs are they.
  - Mr. Jackson said he has a little puppy, a hound, and one that is part Rottweiler and water dog. He said they are mixed breed dogs. He said his dogs don't bother anyone. He said if the dogcatcher came and got them, he would understand it, but just a phone call.



- Mr. Cherepko said can he send a citation just from a phone call.
- Mr. Elash said he has the authority to send a citation based on information received just like a police officer. He said they don't have to see the crime but can cite based on information they receive. He said it sounds to him that if there is a pattern of receiving that many citations, and he is not judging him ....
- Mr. Jackson said this is between him and his neighbor.
- Mr. Elash said it sure sounds to him like there is an ongoing problem with these dogs running loose.
- Mr. Jackson said she uses the dogcatcher as a weapon.
- Mayor Brewster said he would like to suggest something. He asked Chief Washowich to talk to Mr. Jackson and see if there is a dog issue or a neighbor issue. He said the Chief can intervene between Ferree and the neighbor and maybe between him and Ferree they can determine whether there is a dog issue or not.
- Chief Washowich said the majority of the calls that Ferree responds to are requests from the Police Department. He said he can research into this to see how many calls were dispatched to his particular address to see if there is a situation or if it is the neighbor calling.
- Ms. Walker said she wanted to say thanks to the people who did come up and speak up. She said like the Mayor said it was not an easy decision. She said some voted yes and some voted no. She said she urges them if they hear about something to let them know. She said make them do their job. She said she is not out there so she really doesn't know. She said come down and let them know what is going on. She said it was not an easy decision. She said she will give them

all her cards after this so they can let her know what is going on. She said they really did think about this issue. She said she appreciates them coming tonight and speaking up about this.

### **TABLED BILLS:**

**Bill #160: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE PROPER CITY OFFICERS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY FOR THE REHABILITATION OF THE MANSFIELD BRIDGE.**

Bill #160 will remain tabled.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**ORDINANCE #10-6 – BILL #35: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING AN OFFICIAL STOP SIGN AT THE INTERSECTION OF SHAW AVENUE & LOCUST STREET TO CONTROL TRAFFIC TRAVELING IN THE NORTHERN DIRECTION ON LOCUST STREET IN THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.**

**MOTION: Mr. Segina moved, seconded by Mr. Tedesco, "To adopt Bill #35."**

<b>RC-3</b>	YEAS:	TEDESCO, McLAUGHLIN, SEGINA, CHEREPKO, WALKER, DELLAPENNA .....	6
	NAYS:	NONE.....	0

- Mr. Segina said why are they placing a stop sign in the northern direction and not in the northern and southern direction.

- Mr. Elash said if you read the memo that is attached to the Resolution it says that the stop sign would need to be placed at the intersection of Shaw Avenue and Locust Street facing north due to traffic signals being removed and a traffic study. He said when PennDOT did the traffic study to remove the lights, recommended the stop sign in the northern direction based on the number of cars and the amount of traffic traveling through the intersection. He said they try to make it as efficient as possible. He said they won't make it a four-way intersection if the traffic doesn't warrant it.
- Mr. Segina said why not a two-way.
- Mr. Elash said he doesn't know the answer to that. He said he rolls through them anyway.
- Mr. Segina said it is like that now. He said the one there now is going east.
- Mr. McLaughlin said the one coming up has a stop sign and the one going down doesn't.
- Mr. Segina said neither does Locust.
- Mr. McLaughlin said if you come down Locust to Shaw Avenue, there is a stop sign. He said if you come up you don't.

**ORDINANCE #10-7 – BILL #36: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING OFFICIAL STOP SIGNS AT THE INTERSECTION OF SIXTH STREET & MARKET STREET TO CONTROL TRAFFIC TRAVELING IN AN EASTERLY & WESTERLY DIRECTION ON SIXTYH STREET AND NORTHERLY & SOUTHERLY DIRECTION ON MARKET STREET IN THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY.**

**MOTION: Mr. Segina moved, seconded by Mr. Dellapenna, "To adopt Bill #36."**

**RC-4** YEAS: TEDESCO, McLAUGHLIN, SEGINA,  
CHEREPKO, WALKER, DELLAPENNA ..... 6

NAYS: NONE..... 0

**ORDINANCE #10-8 – BILL #37: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING OFFICIAL STOP SIGNS AT THE INTERSECTION OF BAILEY AVENUE & EVANS AVENUE TO CONTROL TRAFFIC TRAVELING IN AN EASTERLY & WESTERLY DIRECTION ON BAILEY AVENUE AND NORTHERLY & SOUTHERLY DIRECTION ON EVANS AVENUE IN THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY.**

**MOTION: Mr. Segina moved, seconded by Mr. Tedesco, "To adopt Bill #37."**

**RC-5** YEAS: TEDESCO, McLAUGHLIN, SEGINA,  
CHEREPKO, WALKER, DELLAPENNA ..... 6

NAYS: NONE..... 0

**RESOLUTION #2010-29 – BILL #38: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE DEMOLITION OF CERTAIN DETERIORATED PROPERTIES IN THE CITY OF MCKEESPORT, PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE #2253, SERIES 1962, SECTION 5.**

**MOTION: Mr. Tedesco moved, seconded by Mr. Segina, "To adopt Bill #38."**

**RC-6** YEAS: TEDESCO, McLAUGHLIN, SEGINA,  
CHEREPKO, WALKER, DELLAPENNA ..... 6

NAYS: NONE..... 0

**RESOLUTION #2010-30 – BILL #39: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE PROPER CITY OFFICIALS TO NEGOTIATE A HOST AGREEMENT WITH THE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT ACCORDING TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS TO BE APPROVED BY THE CITY SOLICITOR AND AUTHORIZING THE PROPER CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE SAID AGREEMENT.**

**MOTION: Mr. Tedesco moved, seconded by Mr. Dellapenna, "To adopt Bill #39."**

**RC-7** YEAS: TEDESCO, SEGINA, CHEREPKO, WALKER,  
DELLAPENNA..... 5

NAYS: NONE..... 0

ABSTAIN: McLAUGHLIN..... 1

- Mr. Elash said he needs to make a statement for the record regarding why he abstained.
- Mr. McLaughlin said he abstained because he is also on the Board of the Municipal Authority.
- Mr. Elash said he abstained to avoid the appearance of impropriety even though there is no actual conflict of interest.

**RESOLUTION #2010-31 – BILL #40: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE MODIFICATION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH WOMANSPLACE ESG 2009 FOR FUNDING FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA.**

**MOTION: Mr. Tedesco moved, seconded by Mr. Segina, "To adopt Bill #40."**

**RC-8** YEAS: TEDESCO, McLAUGHLIN, SEGINA,  
CHERPKO, WALKER, DELLAPENNA ..... 6

NAYS: NONE..... 0

**ORDINANCE #10-9 – BILL #41: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, INCREASING THE INDEBTEDNESS OF SAID CITY OF McKEESPORT, BY THE ISSUE OF A GENERAL OBLIGATION NOTE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,000,000.00 TO PROVIDE FOR INTERIM FINANCING FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF WEST FIFTH AVENUE WITHIN THE CITY OF McKEESPORT WHILE APPROVED GRANT FUNDS FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA ARE REQUESTED AND DISBURSED; FIXING THE FORM, NUMBER, DATE, INTEREST AND MATURITY THEREOF; MAKING A COVENANT FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE DEBT SERVICE ON THE NOTE; PROVIDING FOR THE FILING OF THE REQUIRED DOCUMENT(S); PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A SINKING FUND DEPOSITORY FOR THE NOTE; AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION, SALE AND DELIVERY THEREOF.**

**MOTION: Mr. Segina moved, seconded by Mr. Cherepko, "To adopt Bill #41."**

**RC-9** YEAS: TEDESCO, McLAUGHLIN, SEGINA,  
CHERPKO, WALKER, DELLAPENNA ..... 6

NAYS: NONE..... 0

**ORDINANCE #10-10 – BILL #42: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, INCREASING THE INDEBTEDNESS OF SAID CITY OF McKEESPORT, BY THE ISSUE OF A GENERAL OBLIGATION NOTE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$929,000.00 TO PROVIDE FOR INTERIM FINANCING FOR THE HOMETOWN STREETS PROGRAM WITHIN THE CITY WHILE APPROVED GRANT FUNDS FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF**

**PENNSYLVANIA ARE REQUESTED AND DISBURSED; FIXING THE FORM, NUMBER, DATE, INTEREST AND MATURITY THEREOF; MAKING A COVENANT FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE DEBT SERVICE ON THE NOTE; PROVIDING FOR THE FILING OF THE REQUIRED DOCUMENT(S); PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A SINKING FUND DEPOSITORY FOR THE NOTE; AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION, SALE AND DELIVERY THEREOF.**

**MOTION: Mr. Cherepko moved, seconded by Mr. Dellapenna, "To adopt Bill #42."**

**RC-10** YEAS: TEDESCO, McLAUGHLIN, SEGINA,  
CHEREPKO, WALKER, DELLAPENNA ..... 6

NAYS: NONE..... 0

**RESOLUTION #2010-32 – BILL #43: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE PROPER CITY OFFICIALS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE PORT AUTHORITY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF BUS SHELTERS WITHIN THE CITY.**

**MOTION: Mr. Tedesco moved, seconded by Mr. Dellapenna, "To adopt Bill #43."**

**RC-11** YEAS: TEDESCO, McLAUGHLIN, SEGINA,  
CHEREPKO, WALKER, DELLAPENNA ..... 6

NAYS: NONE..... 0

**CONTROLLER'S REPORT:**

- Mr. Malinchak said he has a couple of items. He said yesterday they had a discussion about the property that the city purchased over near Renzie Park. He said he just wanted to go on record that he is very uncomfortable with the fact that they own a property over there and they are

not receiving any revenue from the renters or occupants. He said he also would question whether any occupancy permits were ever issued there. He said there should have been two because there were two transactions, one from the Sheriff's deed to the Redevelopment Authority and then one from the Redevelopment Authority to the City. He said there should be occupancy permits issued on that property. He said the other matter he wanted to bring up is that he still has not gotten any response from Council with regard to a statement of qualifications for brokers for life insurance policies. He said that has been kicked around here for about a year and a half and his patience is growing thin. He said he asking that Council approve the bills in the amount of \$128,327.64.

- Mr. Segina said what is Mr. Malinchak talking about with regard to life insurance policies.
- Mr. Malinchak said he has repeatedly asked this Council and it goes all the way back ... he meant to say health insurance. He said they pay \$2 million in Health insurance premiums and he has requested for over a year that they should be going out for a statement of qualifications to stimulate competition so that others would have an opportunity to become the broker. He said he talked to the Mayor, Mr. Elash and Mr. Pittman about this. He said the last time Mr. McLaughlin said he was going to discuss it in caucus and don't understand how they can do that because it would be a violation of the Sunshine Act.
- Mr. McLaughlin said that is why he has not discussed it, it would be a violation of the Sunshine Act.
- Mr. Malinchak said they have not made a decision. He said why doesn't he ask one of his colleagues to put a motion on the floor to go out for a statement of qualifications.
- Mr. McLaughlin said he doesn't think this is the time and place for that. He said he thinks they are happy with the



hospitalization they have right now. He said he thinks it is a tough market.

- Mr. Malinchak said does he think it is their right to give a \$2 million contract out without competition and he is comfortable with that.
- Mr. McLaughlin said fine.
- Mr. Malinchak said okay.

**MOTION: Mr. Segina moved, seconded by Mr. Cherepko, "To approve bills in the amount of \$128,327.64."**

**RC-9** YEAS: TEDESCO, McLAUGHLIN, SEGINA,  
CHEREPKO, WALKER, DELLAPENNA ..... 6

NAYS: NONE..... 0

**ADJOURNMENT:**

President of Council Regis McLaughlin adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

Patricia A. Williams  
City Clerk and Clerk of Council

Regis T. McLaughlin  
President of Council

daw